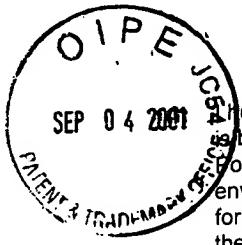


3673

PATENT  
TH-0776X (US)  
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Date: August 31, 2001

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|   |   |                      |
|---|---|----------------------|
| In re application of                      | ) |                      |
| DONALD WAYNE ALLEN and DEAN LEROY HENNING | ) |                      |
| Serial No. 08/970,312                     | ) | Group Art Unit: 3673 |
| Filed November 14, 1997                   | ) | Examiner: J. Lee     |
| FAIRED TRUSS SPAR                         | ) | August 31, 2001      |

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TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBLIGATE A DOUBLE  
PATENTING REJECTION OVER A PRIOR ART PATENT

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Attention: Office of Petitions  
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TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

Dear Sir:

Shell Oil Company, having undivided title and interest in the above-captioned application, hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the present application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term, defined in 35 U.S.C. §§154-56 and 173, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer of prior Patent No. 6,196,768, also assigned to Shell Oil Company. Shell Oil Company hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the present application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the present application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the present application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. §§154-56 and 173 of the prior patent, as presently shortened by any

terminal disclaimer in the event that it later expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 C.F.R. §1.321, has all claims cancelled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer.

The undersigned is an attorney of record and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the terminal disclaimer fee, as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.20(d), to Deposit Account No. 19-1800. A Statement under 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b) is being filed concurrently.

Respectfully submitted,

SHELL OIL COMPANY



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